

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/697,302

Examiner

Michael C. Miggins

Applicant(s)

WILLIAMS ET AL.

Art Unit

1772

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/31/03 *new*
5/14/04
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 33-36.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

*The drawings of 10/31/03 are accepted by the examiner
Hed
9/30/05*

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10/31/03
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 09/30/05
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

**MICHAEL C. MIGGINS
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

Michael C. Miggins

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Jim Lydon on 9/30/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

In claim 33, line 4, after "one" and before "opening" the term - - first - - has been inserted.

In claim 33, line 4, after "surface," and before "said" the term - - each - - has been inserted.

In claim 33, line 4, after "said" and before "opening" the term - - first - - has been inserted.

In claim 33, line 5, after "communication with" and before "a second surface" the phrase - - a corresponding second opening in - - has been inserted.

In claim 33, line 11, after "closed space" the phrase - - , wherein said second surface is only bonded to said end walls and said side walls - - has been inserted.

In claim 33, line 16, after "hollow conduit" and before "over said" the phrase - - which extends beyond said partially closed space and has an opening in communication with said first opening of said first surface - - has been inserted.

In claim 35, line 9, after "at least one" and before "opening in a" the term - - first -
- has been inserted.

In claim 35, line 9, after "first surface," and before "said" the term - - each - - has
been inserted.

In claim 35, line 10, before "opening" the term - - first - - has been inserted.

In claim 35, line 10, after "communication with" and before "a second surface" the
phrase - - a corresponding second opening in - - has been inserted.

In claim 35, line 14, after "with the" and before "opening of" the term - - first - -
has been inserted.

In claim 35, at the beginning of line 23, before "said terminal portion" the phrase
"with the proviso that" has been deleted and the term - - wherein - - has been inserted in
place thereof.

In claim 35, line 24, after "partially closed space" the phrase - - , and wherein
said second surface is only bonded to said end walls and said side walls - - has been
inserted.

In claim 36, line 10, after "at least one" and before "opening in a" the term - - first
- - has been inserted.

In claim 36, line 10, after "first surface," and before "said" the term - - each - - has
been inserted.

In claim 36, line 11, before "opening" the term - - first - - has been inserted.

In claim 36, line 11, after "communication with" and before "a second surface" the phrase - - a corresponding second opening in - - has been inserted.

In claim 36, line 15, after "with the" and before "opening of" the term - - first - - has been inserted.

In claim 36, at the beginning of line 24, before "said terminal portion" the phrase "with the proviso that" has been deleted and the term - - wherein - - has been inserted in place thereof.

In claim 36, line 25, after "partially closed space" the phrase - - , and wherein said second surface is only bonded to said end walls and said side walls - - has been inserted.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With regard to instant claims 33 and 35-36, the prior art does not teach or suggest applicant's recited overmolding insert, comprising a base having at least one first opening in a first surface, said at least one first opening being in communication with at least one second opening in a second surface opposite said first surface, at least one hollow projection, said insert further comprising two opposed side walls which are joined to said first surface, two opposed end walls being joined to opposite ends of said first surface and extending from one side wall to the other side wall, such that side walls, the end walls, and the first surface define a partially closed space, and wherein said second surface is only bonded to said end walls and said side walls.

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The closest prior art, Buckley, Jr. (US 5,467,818) in view of Wollbeck et al. (US 4740344, cited in applicant's IDS of 10/31/03), teaches an overmolding insert, comprising a base having at least one first opening, at least one hollow projection, said insert further comprising two opposed side walls which are joined to said first surface, two opposed end walls being joined to opposite ends of said first surface and extending from one side wall to the other side wall, such that side walls, the end walls, and the first surface define a partially closed space. However, neither Buckley, Jr. nor Wollbeck et al. teach an overmolding insert, comprising a base having at least one first opening in a first surface, said at least one first opening being in communication with at least one second opening in a second surface opposite said first surface, and wherein said second surface is only bonded to said end walls and said side walls as recited by applicant in claim 1.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael C. Miggins whose telephone number is 571-272-1494. The examiner can normally be reached on 1:00-10:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Harold Y. Pyon can be reached on 571-272-1498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Michael C. Miggins
Primary Examiner
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MCM
September 30, 2005